

MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of proposal: Rutsatz Pass Timber Sale, App. No. 72919, and Forest Practice Application No. 2806517. Even-aged harvest of 1,524 MBF of timber from 58 acres. Proposal will include 10,824 feet of road reconstruction, 1,960 feet of road construction, and 1,013 feet of road abandonment.

Description of mitigation: See attached sheet.

Proponent: Department of Natural Resources.

Location of proposal, including street address, if any: Section 3, Township 38 North, Range 5 East. Sections 1, 2, and 34, Township 39 North, Range 5 East. Section 23, Township 40 North, Range 5 East. Located 6 miles by road southeast of Deming, Whatcom County, off of the North Dike Mainline (ND-1000 Road).

Lead agency: Department of Natural Resources.

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

☐ There is no comment period for this Mitigated DNS.

☒ This MDNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from January 8, 2004. Comments must be submitted by January 22, 2004.

Responsible official: William J. Wallace

Position/title: Region Manager Phone: 360-856-3500

Address: 919 North Township Street, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284

Date: _____ Signature: _____

There is no agency SEPA appeal.

05-08-01

Rutsatz Pass Timber Sale
App. No. 72919
Mitigated Measures

- Streams: Two type 4 streams are buffered with 100-foot buffers. No yarding will be allowed across streams.
- Unstable Slopes: These areas have been bounded out of the sale.
- Green Tree Retention Areas: Green trees are located in clumps and scattered in sale units.
- Roads: 1,960 feet of new construction. 10,824 feet of reconstruction. 1,013 feet of road will be abandoned. 947 feet of road to be inactivated. All freshly exposed soils associated with road construction, reconstruction, abandonment and timber harvesting near streams with the potential for delivery will be grass seeded. Dust abatement along the first 600 feet of the S-1000 road will occur as needed when hauling.
- Logging Methods: Cable on steeper slopes; shovel on slopes 25% or less. Leading end of logs will be suspended when yarding with cable. Small portion of sale will be cable yarding only, due to moist soils on slopes less than 25%.
- Wildlife: The entire proposal is located in the vicinity of two eagle roost areas. The harvest proposal is located in the vicinity of the Rutsatz/Van Zandt roost and the S-1100 rock pit is in the vicinity of the Hatchery Bear Creek roost. Activity in the vicinity of the Rutsatz/Van Zandt roost will be restricted for November 1 to February 15 and activity in the S-1100 rock pit will be restricted from December 1 to February 15. These restrictions are to reduce potential impacts to over wintering eagles. Two years of Marble Murrelet surveys in the sale proposal area have been completed as of August 2003. No detections were recorded.
- Cultural Resources: Local tribes have identified several sensitive areas in the sale area. These areas have been mitigated on a site-by-site basis with tribal concurrence.